



# COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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*Administering the Children's Services Act*

Welcome to the first edition of *CSA Today*!

On behalf of the team at the Office of Children's Services (OCS), I am pleased to introduce this new publication. Clear and timely communication is one of our most critical tools in effective collaboration and management of the Children's Services Act (CSA). Increasing such communication is one of my top priorities as the new Executive Director at OCS and this was also identified by over 75 local CSA Coordinators during the pre-conference session held at the April CSA Conference. Hopefully, you will have already noticed an increase in information flow as we share important (and sometimes just interesting) items from within OCS as well as from our state agency partners. I have been gratified with the number of invitations to visit your CPMT meetings and I have begun doing so. There are actually so many invitations, that it is likely to take me several years to visit every locality in the Commonwealth that extended a welcome. I appreciate your patience as I schedule my travels to "meet you when and where you are."

In addition to the recent updates to the CSA Policy Manual and CSA User Guide and other new and/or improved resources, we intend the *CSA Today* to provide concise and targeted information about various areas of CSA activities: policy, training, information technology, and services and programs, among others. In this first issue, you will learn about changes in SEC policy, Fostering Futures, audit information, LEDRS tips, and much more. If you have something you'd like to share with your CSA colleagues around the state – a program you are especially proud of, a new approach to family engagement, a creative new policy ..., please send it on and we will see how we can work it in to future editions (see the "Guidelines for Submissions").

Of course, effective communication is a two-way process. The team at OCS always strives to interact in a responsive and helpful manner to your questions and concerns. Please do not hesitate to contact us and let us know how we can be better partners in meeting our collective and common mission – implementing an effective system of care for Virginia's children, families and communities.

Best wishes,

*Scott*